IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Withdrawn/Previously Presented): A method for selective measurement of triglycerides contained in very low density lipoprotein and intermediate density lipoprotein:

1) exposing and reacting the test sample to and with (a) a first lipoprotein lipase, (b) enzymes catalyzing a series of reactions leading to the generation of hydrogen peroxide or a reduced coenzyme from glycerol, in the presence of a first selective reaction promoter, which is an ether or ester compound of a polyoxyalkylene capable of reacting the first lipoprotein lipase selectively with triglycerides contained in low density lipoprotein and high density lipoprotein, to generate hydrogen peroxide or a reduced coenzyme from the triglycerides contained in the low density lipoprotein and the high density lipoprotein in the test sample, and (c) an enzyme catalyzing a reaction leading to the conversion of the generated hydrogen peroxide or the reduced coenzyme into another substance,

thereby eliminating the triglycerides contained in the low density lipoprotein and the high density lipoprotein,

2) subsequently, reacting the test sample with (a) a second lipoprotein lipase, and (b) enzymes catalyzing a series of reactions leading to the generation of hydrogen peroxide or a reduced coenzyme from glycerol, in the presence of a second selective reaction promoter, which is an ether or ester compound of a polyoxyalkylene capable of reacting the second lipoprotein lipase selectively with triglycerides contained in very low density lipoprotein, intermediate density lipoprotein, low density lipoprotein and high density lipoprotein, to generate hydrogen peroxide or a reduced coenzyme from the triglycerides contained in the very low density lipoprotein and the intermediate density lipoprotein, and

3) measuring the hydrogen peroxide or reduced coenzyme generated in step (2),

wherein the activity of the first lipoprotein lipase depends on the concentration of a surfactant, while the activity of the second lipoprotein lipase hardly depends on the concentration of the surfactant, and

a m/n ratio is in the range of 1.1 to 1.2, where m is the average mole number of the added polyoxyalkylene in its ether or ester compound which is used as the first selective reaction promoter and n is the average mole number of the added polyoxyalkylene in its ether or ester compound which is used as the second selective reaction promoter.

Claims 2-3 (Cancelled):

Claim 4 (Withdrawn/Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein m is in the range of 7.7 to 18 and n is in the range of 7 to 15.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn/Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein m is in the range of 11 to 12 and n is 10.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn/Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the ether or ester compound of a polyoxyalkylene which is used as the first selective reaction promoter is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkylphenyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkylphenyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain fatty acid esters, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain fatty acid esters, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkyl substituted benzoic acid esters and polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkyl substituted benzoic acid esters.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn/Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the ether or ester compound of a polyoxyalkylene used as the second selective reaction promoter is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkylphenyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkylphenyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain fatty acid esters, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain fatty acid esters, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkyl substituted benzoic acid esters and polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkyl substituted benzoic acid esters.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 1, wherein the polyoxyalkylene is polyoxyethylene.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim1, wherein the first selective reaction promoter is polyoxyethylene nonylphenyl ether in which the average mole number of added polyoxyethylene m is in the range of 11 to 12 and the second selective reaction promoter is polyoxyethylene nonylphenyl ether in which the average mole number of added polyoxyethylene n is 10.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn/Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the steps (1) to (3) or the steps (2) to (3) are carried out in the presence of at least one reaction assistant.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 10, wherein the reaction assistant is a polysaccharide or derivative thereof, a polyanion, a halogen ion, a metal ion, or lectin.

Claim 12 (Canceled)

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A kit for selective measurement of triglycerides contained in very low density lipoprotein and intermediate density lipoprotein in a test sample, comprising:

a first reagent that comprises: a first selective reaction promoter, which is an ether or ester compound of a polyoxyalkylene capable of reacting a first lipoprotein lipase selectively with triglycerides contained in low density lipoprotein and high density lipoprotein; the first lipoprotein lipase; enzymes which catalyze a series of reactions leading to the generation of hydrogen peroxide or a reduced coenzyme from glycerol; and an enzyme which catalyzes a reaction leading to the conversion of hydrogen peroxide or a reduced coenzyme into another substance;

a second reagent that comprises: a second selective reaction promoter, which is an ether or ester compound of a polyoxyalkylene capable of reacting a second lipoprotein lipase selectively with triglycerides contained in very low density lipoprotein, intermediate density lipoprotein, low density lipoprotein and high density lipoprotein; and the second lipoprotein lipase;

wherein the activity of the first lipoprotein lipase depends on the concentration of a surfactant, while the activity of the second lipoprotein lipase hardly depends on the concentration of the surfactant, and

a m/n ratio is in the range of 1.1 to 1.2, where m is the average mole number of the added polyoxyalkylene in its ether or ester compound which is used as the first selective reaction promoter and n is the average mole number of the added polyoxyalkylene in its ether or ester compound which is used as the second selective reaction promoter.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, wherein the first reagent and/or the second reagent further comprises a substance which is involved in a reaction leading to the derivation of a signal from hydrogen peroxide or a reduced coenzyme.

Claims 15-16 (Cancelled):

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, wherein m is in the range of 7.7 to 18 and n is in the range of 7 to 15.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, wherein m is in the range of 11 to 12 and n is 10.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, wherein the ether or ester compound of a polyoxyalkylene used as the first selective reaction promoter is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkylphenyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkylphenyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain fatty acid esters, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain fatty acid esters, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkyl substituted benzoic acid esters and polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkyl substituted benzoic acid esters.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, wherein the ether or ester compound of a polyoxyalkylene used as the second selective reaction promoter is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of polyoxyalkylene straight-chain

alkyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkylphenyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkylphenyl ethers, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain fatty acid esters, polyoxyalkylene branched-chain fatty acid esters, polyoxyalkylene straight-chain alkyl substituted benzoic acid esters and polyoxyalkylene branched-chain alkyl substituted benzoic acid esters.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, wherein the polyoxyalkylene is polyoxyethylene.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, wherein the first selective reaction promoter is polyoxyethylene nonylphenyl ether in which the average mole number of added polyoxyethylene m is in the range of 11 to 12 and the second selective reaction promoter is polyoxyethylene nonylphenyl ether in which the average mole number of added polyoxyethylene n is 10.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, wherein the first reagent and/or the second reagent further comprises at least one reaction assistant.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 23, wherein the reaction assistant is a polysaccharide or derivative thereof, a polyanion, a halogen ion, a metal ion, or lectin.

Claims 25-37 (Cancelled).

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, further comprising an instruction for conducting selective measurements of triglycerides contained in very low density lipoprotein and intermediate density lipoprotein.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The kit according to claim 13, wherein the ingredients of the first and/or the second reagent are divided into two or more groups which are kept in separate packages and/or containers.

Claim 40 (New): The kit according to claim 13, which is used for selective measurement of triglycerides contained in very low density lipoprotein in the test sample.